Glossary

100-year flood: a flood having one in 100 chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year

aquatic: growing, living in, or frequenting water

archaeological sites: a place where material remains of past peoples are found

benthic trawl: dragging a net on the river bottom to sample aquatic populations

biomass: amount of living organisms

biotic index: number of kinds of living organisms found in an ecosystem

Cesium-137: a radioactive product of the explosions from nuclear bomb tests carried out in the 1950s and early 1960s

channel: the deeper part of a moving body of water where the main current flows

channelization: describes a stream or river that has been straightened

dam: a barrier preventing flow of water

dissolved oxygen: molecules of oxygen gas dissolved in water

diversity: variety

economic depression: period of time where there is an economic downturn usually accompanied with high unemployment, loss of value of currency, and lower stock values

electrofishing: using an electric current to temporarily stun fish so they can be identified, weighed, and measured

erosion: the removal or wearing away of soil or rock by water, wind, or other forces or processes

flood: the abnormally high stream/river flow that overtops the banks of a stream/river

floodplain: the land near a stream/river which flood water spills onto

glochidium: the larva of a freshwater mussel (Superfamily *Unionoidea*) that generally lives as a temporary parasite on a host fish; a mussel larva that is microscopic, many species require a fish as a host for development to a juvenile

habitat: the arrangement of food, water, shelter or cover, and space suitable to animals' needs

habitat generalist: an animal that may live in a variety of habitats

habitat specialist: an animal that must have specific conditions present to survive

healthy: a habitat which supports the diversity of life

ichthyologist: a person that studies fish, their classification, structure, habits, and life history

indicator species: a particular plant or animal species used as a general measure of the health of an ecosystem

isotope: one of two or more species of atoms of the same chemical element that have the same atomic number and occupy the same position in the periodic table and are nearly identical in chemical behavior, but differ in atomic mass or mass number and so behave differently in the mass spectrograph, radio transformations, and physical properties

land-use planning: usually refers to the planning of how the land will be used by people

lifestyle: individual's way of life

meander: a turn or winding of a stream

migration: the periodic movement of animals from one area to another and back again as a natural part of their lives

municipal water storage: water stored for public consumption or use

mussel: mollusks that have two shells and are collector-filterers

natural resources: raw materials provided by the Earth and usually processed into useful products; some natural resources are renewable (e.g., trees, crops, wildlife); other natural resources are non renewable (e.g., oil, coal, metals)

natural resource management: the practice or act of controlling the harvest, protection or restoration, or other use of resources

niche: the function or position of an organism or a population within an ecological community

non-point source pollution: pollution that enters water through runoff from land

pH: a measure that indicates the relative acidity or alkalinity of a substance (The pH scale ranges from 0 (most acid) to 14 (most basic), with a pH of 7 being neutral)

point-source pollution: pollution that can be traced back to the point of origin

pollutant: substance that may contaminate air, water, or soil

pollution: contamination of soil, water, or atmosphere by the discharge of harmful substances

pool: area of a stream or river which is deeper than adjacent areas; water flow may be slowed and the bottom usually is made of very small particles

population: the number of a particular species in a defined area at a given time

potable water: water suitable for drinking

precipitation: any form of water falling from the sky (e.g. rain, snow, hail)

pristine: uncorrupted by civilization or world

radio-isotope: a radioactive isotope

reservoir: a natural or manmade body of water

riffle: area of a stream or river with faster current; usually more shallow than a run or pool; the water surface is broken up due to flowing over rocks, etc.

run: area of a stream or river with moderate current and fairly uniform water flow

runoff: water that drains or flows off the surface of the land

sediment: the matter that settles to the bottom of a liquid such as water

sedimentation: the accumulation of sediment

seine: a net that hangs vertically in the water, typically with floats at the upper edge and weights at the lower edge that can be moved through the water to trap and/or catch fish

snag: an underwater structure that may be manmade (stake piles, cedar trees) or natural (fallen trees)

species: a population of individuals that are more or less alike and are able to breed and produce fertile offspring under natural conditions; a category of biological classification immediately below the genus or subgenus

species richness: the number of different species present

temperature: degree of hotness or coldness measured on a scale

terrestrial: living or growing on land

trade off: to use alternately; to exchange places with another

turbidity: subjective term used to measure the amount of light that can get through the water column due to the amount of suspended sediments in water that make the water muddy or cloudy

water quality: term referring to the condition of water (can it support life or be consumed)

watershed: area of land that drains into a particular body of water

wilderness: a place uncultivated and uninhabited by human beings